CANADIAN Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

Vol. 10, No. 18 TORONTO, MAY 2, 1945 $2.00 Per Annum

Fixups Over $500 Need Permit

Odeon Kid Pix Open in June

The inauguration of children's Movie Clubs by Odeon Theatres will be one of the first practical results of the J. Arthur Rank partnership with Odeon Theatres of Canada. The first Odeon Movie Club will be opened at the Colony Theatre, Toronto, at the begin-

(Continued on Page 2)

16 Mm. Producers Plan Hays Office

Hollywood's leading producers of 16 mm. films are creating an organization along the lines of the Hays office, to be known as "The 16 Mm. Producers Association of America." Official title of the Hays office is "Motion Picture Producers and Distributors

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Controller of Construction Reduces $1,500 Outlay

The amount expendable on construction without license from Col. J. P. Mackenzie, controller of construction for the department of Munitions and Supply, has been reduced from $1,500 to $500 annually, it has been announced. This ruling, which restricts theatre alterations and renovations on a small scale, became effective March 1st and applies to all but industrial building.

The purpose of the reduction is to conserve material and ensure better control and more equitable distribution of it. The financial limit is now what it was more

(Continued on Page 2)

Red Cross Take Near $85,000

Breakdown of provinces in recent theatre collection for the Red Cross Society showed the following results: Ontario, $29,642.20; Quebec, $14,312.72; British Columbia, $10,298.85; Nova Scotia, $8,866.41; Manitoba, $6,441.52; Alberta, $5,723.13; Saskatchewan, $5,279.90; New Brunswick, $3,671.92. No collection was taken in Prince Edward Island. Total is not yet complete.

J. J. Fitzgibbons, head of the Motion Picture War Services, tenders his thanks to all who aided in the collections.

Capra Pic Shelved

The announcement comes from the British War Office in London, that the Col. Frank Capra film on the Burma campaign has been shelved because "it does not do justice to the part played by British troops."

V Loan Campaign Gets Good Start

Early reports from across tehe Dominion reveal that the entire film and theatre industry is supporting Canada's Eighth Victory loan to the limit and contributing its full share towards the attainment of the minimum objective of $1,350,000,000.

(Continued on Page 2)

Still Lively On Post-War Front

Marked activity is continuing in the field of theatre ownership and a number of communities will be affected by it, according to news from various points in Canada. Both circuits and Independents are busy.

Present moves and post-war

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Not Leaving Canada, Says John Grierson

"I do not choose to leave Canada," John Grierson told Canadian Film Weekly in scouting unfounded press reports that he would take over active operation of a film unit sponsored by the USA State Department. "Such stories are wholly speculative and have no basis whatever in fact."

The Dominion Film Commissioner, back in Ottawa after a short absence, dismissed as nonsense the unauthorized stories originating from Washington about his future activities which have been appearing in the trade and daily press.

"My only relations with Washington officials have been in the nature of continuing talks on mutual problems and an exchange of experiences for whatever benefits may result," he

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Picture Pioneers Plan Clair Hague Fund

The Canadian Picture Pioneers are making plans for a national effort to raise money for the future need of any person in the Canadian industry who might require it. The move is impelled as a tribute to the memory of the organization's late president, Clair Hague. The money raised will be added to the already substantial fund held by the Pioneers, which will also be at the disposal of those in need within the entire industry.

Committees appointed by the officers and directors at Toronto are now at work planning various means of raising funds which will not compete with government and other appeals to the public. J. J. Fitzgibbons of Famous Players, and Paul Nathanson, head of Odeon, will provide yearly passes for their theatres at

(Continued on Page 12)

Support the

VICTORY LOAN

Campaign

'SALOME, WHERE SHE DANCED' • 'SUDAN'
'FRISCO SAL' • 'PATRICK THE GREAT'

Current releases that are packed with showmanship and the sort of entertainment that sells tickets.
Four pictures from Empire-Universal.
Distributed by EMPIRE-UNIVERSAL FILMS LTD.

Film Weekly

Vol. 10, No. 18 May 2, 1945

HYE BOSSIN, Managing Editor

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Says BOB HOPE in

'All Star Bond Rally':

I'd like to interrupt this show for a minute and tell you why we are all here.

You know, this All Star Bond Rally is being held in the interest of the 8th Victory Loan. Now, it is not for me to tell you why you should buy Victory Bonds. The fact that you're Canadians is reason enough.

It was no military accident that Canadian troops were picked to take an important part in that famous action at Dieppe. It was no freak chance which selected Canadians for the breakthrough at Caen or to open up Scheldt Estuary in the Dutch Lowlands or for outflanking the Siegfried Line at Cleve. It was not hit and miss generalship which asked the Canadians to further distinguish themselves in the Sicilian and Italian campaigns. It was simply because the daring and tenacity of your fighting forces is traditional and the results they achieved is history.

Historically also, there has never been a greater opportunity for a nation to welcome its men home with more promise of security and economic control after the victory which we all look forward to with hope and eagerness.

Here is a promise which must be kept. These men have won the war for us. We must by our purchases of Victory Bonds and extra Victory Bonds, show them that the end which they so dearly bought is theirs to keep, that the security of their homes, their families and their country is theirs by right of loyalty and courage to have and to hold.

Fixup Limit $500 By New Order

(Continued from Page 1)

than a year ago, when conditions made it possible to raise it to $1,500.

Construction of theatres, auditoriums, etc., continues to be prohibited but favorable consideration was being given to applications for licenses to build or extend industrial plants in areas where no labor shortage exists. The department recognizes the need of increased export trade, improved working conditions and increased productivity of labor as factors in post-war security and desires to encourage them.

Licenses for the construction of homes were being granted on a basis of essentiality and urgency is the main factor in allowing hospitals, etc., to be erected.

Past policy has been to permit rebuilding of burnt-out theatres.

H. Thomas Now PRC Sales Chief

Harry H. Thomas, has been appointed vice-president in charge of distribution and general sales of PRC Pictures, Incorporated, according to an official announcement made by Leon Fromkess, president, at a press reception for the new officer in New York.

Thomas has been eastern sales manager for Monogram Pictures, Corporation, for the past five years. He took over his new assignment on April 23.

A pioneer of the film industry, Thomas entered show-business in 1907 when he opened the Bushwick Palace Theatre in Brooklyn. He subsequently became associated with Greater New York Film Company, General Film Company and Alexander Film Company, which he organized, and Merit Film Exchange and First Division, which he formed. He joined Monogram in 1939.

V Loan Campaign Gets Good Start

(Continued from Page 1)

The raising of this great sum of money will bring Canada's financial record in two war loans and eight Victory loans to nearly $10 billion, representing an average investment of more than $860 for every man, woman and child.

The minimum objective is $50,000,000 greater than that of the Seventh Victory Loan last fall, when there were 3,306,990 applications for $1,517,642,700.

In the current loan there are identical objectives of $675,000,000 for individual and for "special names" subscribers, which include commercial and industrial concerns, insurance companies, pension funds, unions, railway brotherhood and others, Provincial and municipal Governments and boards.

Forging ahead in the final phase of the European conflict, Canada's armed forces overseas opened their part of the campaign April 9, and reports of success now are being received daily.

In five previous loans forces overseas have rolled up 396,529 applications for $38,396,150. In the six loans the grand total from the three services at home and abroad has been 1,739,015 applications for $179,064,150.

With war outlays and borrowing needs running at an all-time peak it would be dangerous to think the end of the war with Germany will immediately mean a great reduction in government war expenditures, stated Graham F. Towers, governor of the Bank of Canada and general chairman of the National War Finance Committee, in urging the public to support the Eighth Victory Loan.

Film Men Attend Fire Session

Among those who will attend the annual meeting of the Dominion Fire Prevention association in Quebec City on May 14 to 17 are Ed Wells, executive secretary of the Canadian Motion Picture Distributors Association; A. H. Jolley, executive secretary of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario; and O. J. Silverthorne, head of the Theatre Inspection branch of Ontario.

Megger 25 Years

Robert Florey, one of filmlands "Big Ten" directors, began his 25th year as a megaphonist with the recent shooting of the opening scene of Warner Brothers' "Danger Signal," starring Faye Emerson and Zachary Scott.

Odeon Kid Pix Open in June

(Continued from Page 1)

ning of June, when it is expected that Mr. Rank will personally perform the opening ceremony. He will be accompanied by Paul Nathanson, Odeon's Canadian president, and it is anticipated that many Canadian notable will be present.

In charge of the Dominion-wide Movie Club movement is Thomas Bowyer, who recently joined Odeon Theatres and has already been assured of the co-operation of many leading Toronto citizens.

Only selected movies will be shown at Movie Club meetings and these will include pictures made for and acted by children in Rank's film department in London. This department is headed by Mary Field, the well-known maker of educational and documentary films, who recently visited Canada. Similar films will be be produced in Canada in the very near future under the joint supervision of Messrs. Rank and Nathanson.

In Great Britain children from the ages of six to 14 are shown specially arranged movie programs on Saturday mornings at some 200 Odeon theatres in the U.K. These are attended by over 200,000 young Britons every week.

E. McQuaid, controller of the Odeon National Cinema Club for Boys and Girls in Great Britain has been over here making a survey for the similar clubs which are to be established in Canada.

On the eve of his return to England, McQuaid stated that he felt Canada would welcome the inauguration of these Movie Clubs, judging from the interest shown by juvenile welfare organisations in every citey he visited from Halifax to Vancouver.

SMPE Men Prep For Hollywood Session

Announcing the 57th semi-annual conference of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, to be held in Hollywood from May 14 to 18 inclusive, Donald E. Hyndman, president of the organization, stated that the meeting would be of vital importance because the film industry was looking forward to the adoption of new technical methods in the postwar period for both domestic and international benefit.

Television will be high on the list of topics to be discussed at the convention and it will be the subject of several of the major papers among those to be presented to the delegates by technical experts.

A number of Canadian delegates are expected to attend.

THE PICK OF THE PICTURES

CANADIAN Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

REVIEWS INFORMATION RATINGS

Vol 10, No. 18 REVIEWS FROM FILM DAILY, NEW YORK $2.00 Per Annum

Frisco Sal

with Susanna Foster, Turhan Bey
Universal 94 Mins.

LUSTY ROMANTIC TALE OF BARBARY COAST SHOULD PLEASE MOST AUDIENCES.

"Frisco Sal" is an offering liberally endowed with life, colorfulness, excitement and heartiness—virtues that suffice to place the film in the winning column. Another factor very much in the production's favor is the rendition of several song numbers by Susanna Foster, who once more finds herself teamed romantically with Turhan Bey.

The picture's primary weakness is its story, an old stereotyped affair that strains the credulity. Fortunately the film's good qualities are strong enough to push the story into the background. Lucky also that the commotion whipped up by Producer-Director George Waggner turns the attention very much away from the plot.

The locale is San Francisco's Barbary Coast before the turn of the century. Deposited there is Miss Foster, a New England lass in search of a long-lost brother. Her quest brings her in contact with Bey, operator of a gay spot, and Alan Curtis, head of a racket outfit who is feuding with him. Curtis tries to break up the girl's romance with Bey without success. Bey and Curtis make their peace when it is disclosed that the latter is Miss Foster's brother.

Art Directors John B. Goodman and Robert Clatworthy and Set Decorators Russell A. Gausman and Ted von Hemert deserve most of the credit for the film's atmospheric excellence.

CAST: Susanna Foster, Turhan Bey, Alan Curtis, Andy Devine, Thomas Gomez, Collette Lyons, Samuel S. Hinds, Fuzzy Knight, Billy Green, Ernie Adams, George Lloyd, Bert Fiske.

CREDITS: Producer, George Waggner; Director, George Waggner; Screenplay, Curt Sloomak, Gerald Geraghty; Cameraman, Charles Van Enger; Musical Director, Edward Ward; Art Directors, John B. Goodman, Robert Clatworthy; Sound Director, Bernard B. Brown; Set Decorators, Russel A. Gausman, Ten von Hemert; Film Editor, Edward Curtiss; Dance Director, Lester Horton.

DIRECTION, Okay. PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

'Medal for Benny' To Be Boosted

Paramount's national advertising campaign on the company's forthcoming release "A Medal for Benny" will embody ideas submitted by a dozen of the country's leading theatre advertising executives as a result of a coast-to-coast "round table" discussion by mail just concluded by R. M. Gillham, Paramount director of advertising.

Murder, My Sweet

with Dick Powell, Claire Trevor, Anne Shirley
RKO 95 Mins.

FORCEFUL MELODRAMA EFFECTIVELY PRODUCED, SHOULD GO OVER DESPITE ITS CONFUSION.

The Raymond Chandler "Farewell, My Lovely," novel has been turned into strong melodramatic entertainment under the guidance of Executive Producer Sid Rogell and Producer Adrian Scott. The film carries a punch and its story has been worked out interestingly if not too clearly. The production has so much in its favor that one can be charitable about its confused story line and its overdependence on talk. Its dark mood is one of the most impressive things about the film.

Under the biting direction of Edward Dmytryk the film weaves a tale of terror as it follows the experiences of a private detective in solving a murder case involving a woman who, in marrying a man of wealth, hid her smelly past. There are so many convolutions to the tale that one can't easily set the plot down in confined space.

Dick Powell delivers his best performance as the dick. As the villainess Claire Trevor takes full advantage of the best role she's had in a long time. Anne Shirley is good as Miss Trevor's stepdaughter. There are plenty of other fine performances.

CAST: Dick Powell, Claire Trevor, Anne Shirley, Otto Kruger, Mike Mazurki, Miles Mander, Douglas Walton, Don Douglas, Ralf Harolde, Esther Howard.

CREDITS: Executive Producer, Sid Rogell; Producer, Adrian Scott; Director, Edward Dmytryk; Screenplay, John Paxton; Based on novel by Raymond Chandler; Cameraman, Harry J. Wild; Special Effects, Vernon L. Walker; Art Directors, Albert S. D'Agostino, Carroll Clark; Set Decorators, Darrell Silvera, Michael Ohrenbach; Sound, Bailey Fesler; Musical Score, Roy Webb; Musical Director, C. Bakaleinikoff; Film Editor, Joseph Noriega.

DIRECTION, Good. PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

Manning Missing

Flying Officer Fred Manning, formerly with RKO in Vancouver before joining the RCAF, has been reported missing over Europe.

National Velvet

with Mickey Rooney, Elizabeth Tayolr
MGM 125 Mins.

TOP GROSSES ARE IN STORE FOR TECHNICOLOR CORKER THAT DEPARTS FROM THE USUAL.

The screen version of the Enid Bagnold novel promises the exhibitor plenty of "velvet." Departing from the customary, the production is one of the entertainment delights of the year that captivates with its freshness, its human touch, its simplicity and its gentleness. The picture is in every respect an impressive offering that employs Technicolor eloquently.

Set in England, the picture, a distinct achievement for Producer Pandro S. Berman, relates with unusual warmth the sentimental story of a roving youth of uncertain character who undergoes a transformation under the influence of a young girl with whose family he seeks temporary refuge.

The force that links the boy and girl is the latter's consuming love for a horse won by her in a raffle. They groom the horse for the Grand National, which the animal, ridden by the girl, wins in a thrilling sequence only to be disqualified when it is discovered that the jockey is a female.

The production, atmospherically and pictorially compelling, has been directed with feeling and understanding by Clarence Brown and acted with distinction by a cast headed by Mickey Rooney as the boy and Elizabeth Taylor as the girl. Good as he is, Rooney is overshadowed by Miss Taylor, who gives a melting performance.

CAST: Mickey Rooney, Donald Crisp, Elizabeth Taylor, Anne Revere, Angela Lansbury, Jackie Jenkins, Juanita Quigley, Arthur Treacher, Reginald Owen, Norma Varden, Terry Kilburn.

CREDITS: Producer, Pandro S. Berman; Director, Clarence Brown; Screenplay, Theodore Reeves, Helen Deutsch; Based on novel by Enid Bagnold; Cameraman, Leonard Smith; Musical Score, Herbert Stothart; Recording Director, Douglas Shearer; Art Directors, Cedric Gibbons, Urie McCleary; Set Decorators, Edwin B. Willis, Mildred Griffiths; Special Effects, Warren Newcombe; Film Editor, Robert J. Kern.

DIRECTION, Excellent. PHOTOGRAPHY, Excellent.

Having Wonderful Crime

with Pat O'Brien, George Murphy, Carole Landis
RKO 70 Mins.

MYSTERY COMEDY FALLS FLAT; ONLY THOSE WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION WILL GO FOR IT.

"Having Wonderful Crime" is a mystery comedy that doesn't come off, although it tries awfully hard to make something of itself. The film represents synthetic entertainment that strikes a false note in its attempts to be smart and nonchalant. What the film has primarily in its favor is loads of action that will lull many patrons into forgetting the picture's numerous faults. The production is entertainment that only those without discrimination will accept without quibbling.

The film, substituting noise and confusion for sense, tells a story of no great interest. The plot, never too clearly defined, concerns the attempt of a trio of amateur sleuths composed of Pat O'Brien, George Murphy and Carole Landis, to solve the disappearance of a magican under suspicious circumstances.

There's quite a to-do over the magician's trick trunk. When the guy is found dead suspicion rests on several persons. O'Brien finally hooks the murderer.

The production is no credit to Robert Fellows, who produced, or Eddie Sutherland, who directed.

CAST: Pat O'Brien, George Murphy, Carole Landis, Lenore Aubert, George Zucco, Anje Berens, Richard Martin, Charles D. Brown, William "Wee Willie" Davis, Blanche Ring, Josephine Whittel.

CREDITS: Producer, obert Fellows; Associate Producer, Theron Warth; Director, Eddie Sutherland; Screenplay, Howard J. Green, Stewart Sterling, Parke Levy; Based on story by Craig Rice; Cameraman, Frank Redman; Special Effects, Vernon L. Walker; Art Directors, Albert S. D'Agostino, Al Herman; Set Decorators, Darrell Silvera, Claude Carpenter; Sound, Jean L. Speak; Musical Score, Leigh Harline; Musical Director, C. Bakaleinikoff; Film Ediotr, Gene Milford.

DIRECTION, So-so. PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

"INVEST IN THE BEST"

BUY VICTORY BONDS

IT'S ONE BIG HAPPY SCREAM!!!

The GIRL with the gleam in her eye...

ROSALIND RUSSELL

And the guy with the XMAS tree in his hat...

JACK CARSON

Filled with the laughter of love and the love of laughter . . .

"ROUGHLY SPEAKING"

Scene for scene, laugh for laugh . . . it's Louise Randall Pierson's hilarious best seller!

CHARM, CHEER AND CHUCKLES IN WARNERS' HONEY OF A HIT!

with ROBERT HUTTON · JEAN SULLIVAN · ALAN HALE · DONALD WOODS · ANDREA KING

Directed by MICHAEL CURTIZ · Screen Play by Louise Randall Pierson From her Book "Roughly Speaking" · Music Composed and Adapted by Max Steiner

Abbott & Costello Milton Berle

Broderick Crawford Jessica Dragonette

Deane Janis James Melton Benny Fields

Benny Goodman Oscar Hammerstein

Moss Hart Rudy Vallee

Ed Sullivan Al Jolson "Dorothy Dix" Fay Wray

Lt. Comdr. Benny Leonard USMS Guy Lombardo Helen Menken

Grace Moore Arthur Murray Ramon Novarro

Believe It or Not Edward G. Robinson Sigmund Romberg Jean Sablon

Lee Shubert Frank Sinatra Kate Smith Sigmund Spaeth

[illegible] Gene Tunney Vera Zorina

ABBOTT & COSTELLO
"thrillingly different"

MILTON BERLE
"spectacular"

BRADSHAW CRANDELL
"a world in itself"

JESSICA DRAGONETTE
"memorable"

IRENE DUNNE
"thrilling entertainment"

JAMES MONTGOMERY FLAGG
"glorious"

BENNY GOODMAN
"glorious"

OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN. 2nd
"music skilfully interwoven with story"

MOSS HART
"memorable picture"

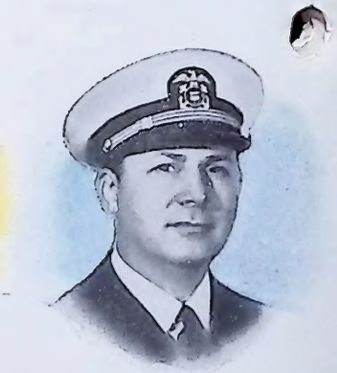
RITA HAYWORTH
"thrillingly different"

TED HUSING
"dramatic . . . memorable"

AL JOLSON
"different"

DOROTHY KILGALLEN
"eloquent"

FRITZ KREISLER
"a new standard"



LT. COMDR. BENNY LEONARD, USMS
"dramatic, exciting"

GUY LOMBARDO
"different"

HELEN MENKEN
"dramatic achievement"

ARTHUR MURRAY
"truly memorable"

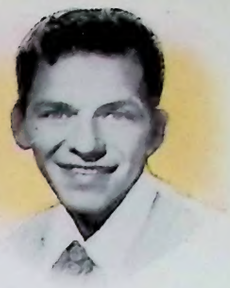
RUSSELL PATTERSON
"exciting"

BOB RIPLEY
"a new standard"

EDWARD G. ROBINSON
"glorious entertainment"

GINGER ROGERS
"thrillingly different"

LEE SHUBERT
"glamorous"



FRANK SINATRA
"glorious"

KATE SMITH
"thrilling"

SIGMUND SPAETH
"memorable picture"

JOHANNES STEEL
"exciting, alive"

LEOPOLD STOKOWSKI
"glorious music"

DEEMS TAYLOR
"truly memorable"

VERA ZORINA
"a great joy"

COLUMBIA PICTURES
PRESENTS

A Sidney Buchman Production

A Song to Remember

Starring

Paul MUNI ❀ *Merle* OBERON

WITH CORNEL WILDE

NINA FOCH • GEORGE COULOURIS

Screen Play by Sidney Buchman

Directed by CHARLES VIDOR

IN TECHNICOLOR

SENSATIONAL BUSINESS

in all pre-release engagements

NEW YORK..*Radio City Music Hall* · SAN FRANCISCO..*Orpheum*
NEW ORLEANS..*Orpheum* · BOSTON..*Loew's State & Orpheum*
CINCINNATI..*RKO Capitol* · OAKLAND..*Roxie* · ST. LOUIS..
***Loew's State*... *and* HELD OVER EVERYWHERE!**

To the Exhibitors of America who have seen "A Song To Remember" in its opening engagements... our deep appreciation for their enthusiastic expressions of gratitude to Columbia for making this great picture at this time in the industry's history.

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

COLUMBIA PICTURES

Still Lively On Post-War Front

(Continued from Page 1)

plans were highlighted by the recent announcement of Paul L. Nathanson from Vancouver that his Odeon circuit would spend the huge sum of $7,500,000 on building 50 new theatres in the Dominion after the war. Jay I. English, architect for the firm, returned from Britain some time ago. There he inspected the theatres of Odeon's partner, J. Arthur Rank, and announced on his return that Canadian Odeon's post-war houses would follow their architectural pattern.

Odeon are still acquiring interests in theatres as well as doing some outright buying in various parts of the country. The latest addition to the circuit is the Victory, in Mission, British Columbia, a modern fireproof 625-seat house, which brings to 29 the number of Odeon theatres in the West Coast province.

Famous Players is also strengthening its position in British Columbia, its plans being complete for a second theatre in Kamloops, and another one in Kelowna, where it has a 15-year lease on a site that will carry a $100,000 house.

Canada's largest circuit has also entered into a partnership agreement with C. C. Plummer, Flin-Flon, Manitoba, covering the operation of the Northland Theatre. Hugh Summers, present assistant-manager of the Strand, Brandon, is the new manager.

In Edmonton the Strand, a theatrical landmark, has been purchased for $150,000 by the Strand Realty Co. by its tenants. It's a Famous Players operation.

The Fingold circuit in Ontario, in which Ralph Dale and Dick Main recently became partners, is reported to have acquired the Simcoe, at Sutton, from Simcoe Theatres Limited. It is a six-day house seating 304 and brings to eleven the number of theatres in the circuit. Bill Noble, manager and part owner, remains as manager.

Basic alterations are now underway, transforming a former hotel building in Lucknow, Ontario, into a theatre. The building was purchased by Rexford Ostrander, from Mrs. D. C. Tayolr.

Cranbrooke Theatres Limited, recently purchased a property adjoining their Star Theatre in Cranbrooke, British Columbia, for future alterations and extention plans.

RKO Buys 'Kneeling'

RKO has acquired "All Kneeling," the Ann Parish novel. Book has been a top-seller since 1928 and was once optioned by Joan Fontaine.

One Things Leads to Another

Ralph Clark, who filled the Wolfe Cohen spot as WB's Canuck gee em until Ben Kalmenson lured the truant Haskell Masters back into the trade corral, was in to say goodbye. Sorry I missed him. Ralph's a real nice guy. The Warner lads gave a blowout in his honor, with Masters emceeing. It's pleasant to see the exuberant Mr. Masters enlivening our little world again. Colorful, that's him . . . Sam Kunetsky of UA's Montreal branch is serving a stretch in Ontario for the company . . . I hear UA will preem "Colonel Blimp" in Ottawa before a parade of notables . . . Al Jeffery, UA boss, is coming back to condition and should be adding a little class to The Square soon . . . To reader LAC Nield, RCAF, Newfoundland, about to be mustered out: "Thanks for those kind words and good luck." . . . Invitation from Marc Hirsch of the Eglinton, Toronto, to have a 10.30 a.m. look at "Adventures in Music," a fine film. "It's high time you paid me a visit," writes he. What's the idea of holding a screening in the middle of the night? . . . Gord Sinclair, who gives with that CFRB "Headliners" program, told the folks about Ben Norrish of the ASN the other 11.55 p.m. . . . Helen Goldstein, with Emp-U for years, switched to the Ray Lewis enterprises on May 1st . . . Bess and Marion Minarsky of the 20th Century Theatres head office staff are on pins and needles about their brother, Archie. His prison camp was freed but no word has been heard about him.

* * *

Of All Things

The Lucky Strike team ran second in the Odeon bowling derby and was presented with a beribboned, single-handled, enamelled loving cup. Kennedy, Laurie, Fisher, Vaughan. Dale and Main filled it with beer and passed it around . . . Denying that he was headed for Washington, John Grierson said: "Washington? The fishing is no good around there." That's an argument that any rod and reel (fishing) man can understand this time of year . . . The April 21st issue of Saturday Evening Post had an interesting yarn by Pete Martin called "Beautiful by Five O'Clock." Told how Joe Pasternak picked out a car-hop gal and made a celluloid Cinderella out of her in a few hours . . . Jimmy Powis, Fox booker, wants to thank exhibs for the prompt return of prints during the anniversary. The trade responded so whole-heeartedly that there was pressure on prints and the cooperation made it possible to keep everyone happy . . . Haven't seen Frank O'Byrne around much, which means that he's mighty busy . . . Ralph Foster, formerly head of the NFB's Graphic division, is en route to Australia for a stay of several years.

* * *

Observanda

The town takes on a big-time tang just before each V-Loan, when the stars stop by. Saw a stickout of a radio show recently which starred Bea Lillie, Frederic March, Florence Eldridge, Raoul Jobin and your partner, the Hon. J. L. Ilsley, minister of finance. Under the auspices of the Maple Leaf, army newspaper, it was strictly for overseas listening and the audience, made up of veterans, had a great time. The music was arranged by Percy Faith and conducted by Sam Hersenhorn. Production was by the CBC's ace whipper-upper, Rupert Caplan, and it ran as smooth as a movie. Harold Kay, Monogram's Toronto branch manager, a guest of Caplan's, gave yours truly a break by sharing the invitation. You usually see the top local radio folks on hand. Wells Ritchie, CBC newsman, was sauntering by and sneered, "What are you movie guys doing at a radio show?" "Spying," we told him . . . Someone pointed out that L. S. B. Shapiro, Canadian war correspondent, was wearing a USA uniform during his Victory Loan clip. The answer to that is that Lionel, a Montreal lad, is the only correspondent to be accredited to two armies—the Canadian and American—and can wear either uniform . . . Incidentally, he had an excellent article in Maclean's recently about the chances Canadian photogs take . . . Sgt. Harry Bochner, brother of Charlie Bochner, was killed in action recently on German soil. He had been in the service four and a half years.

Grierson Denies Stories of Move

(Continued from Page 1)

said. "Canada and the United States have a common point of view on many things."

The Americans, government officials and members of the film industry alike, are also known to be admirers of the smooth relations between the Canadian commercial motion picture industry

JOHN GRIERSON

and the government-sponsored field. Since American public and private officials, faced with duplicating structures established several years earlier in Canada, have often visited this country for purposes of study, there is nothing unusual about Grierson being occasionally in Washington in a frinedly capacity. His experience as head of the National Film Board and — for a short time — the War Information Board should make him a valuable source of advice.

There was apparently nothing new or different about Grierson's most recent Washington visit and the significance placed on his presence in the American capitol by newspapers is far out of line with its actual purpose.

Oscar Winners In Col. Short

A summary of 17 years of Academy Awards will be prepared by Ralph Staub as one of the Columbia Screen Snapshots for the current season. The reel will feature the 34 male and female top stars who have been recipients of Oscars, starting with the 1927-28 awards to Janet Gaynor and Emil Jannings, and will present them in scenes from the pictures for which they won the awards.

PEARL BUCK'S

thrilling novel of adventure, love and jealousy... under the

China

Primitive Passions!

flame into conflict... in the hearts of an American doctor, the woman he married and the girl who loves him... amid the devastation of daily bombings!

RKO puts this one in top budget for national magazine advertising . . . to

28,645,284
CIRCULATION

—including full pages in LIFE—WOMAN'S HOMECOMPANION—McCALL'S—RED BOOK—LOOK—LIBERTY—TRUE STORY—WOMAN'S DAY—PIC and the entire FAN LIST.

Sky

STARRING

RANDOLPH SCOTT · RUTH WARRICK

ELLEN DREW

with ANTHONY QUINN • CAROL THURSTON • RICHARD LOO

Produced by MAURICE GERAGHTY • Directed by RAY ENRIGHT

Screen Play by Brenda Weinberg and Joseph Hoffman

RKO RADIO PICTURES

Pioneers Plan Memorial Fund

(Continued from Page 1)

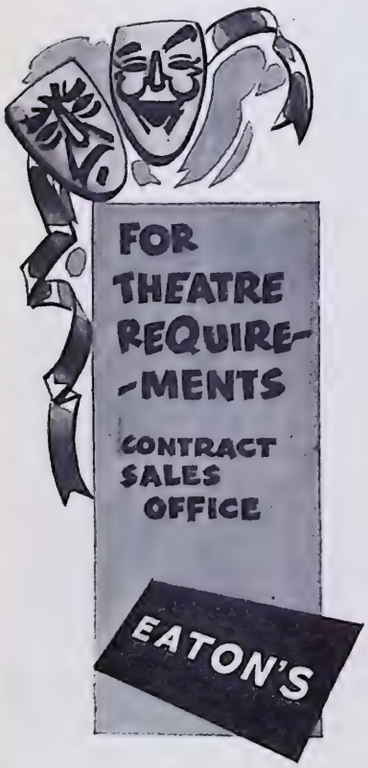
many points. These will be used for lucky draws. A number of independent theatre owners have requested that they also want to be included among the theatres which will offer a yearly pass for lucky draws.

A committee headed by Oscar Hanson and consisting of Clare Appel, Jack Arthur and Ben Cronk is surveying the country's possibilities for the draw events. It is too early to predict how many draws will take place throughout the Dominion because each district will arrange for its own under the direction of Picture Pioneer district managers. Local Committees will be appointed in each district.

The Canadian Picture Pioneers will make every effort to raise a benevolent fund that will be a worthy tribute to the memory of Clair Hague. With this fund now available for benevolent purposes to all members of the industry, it is expected to attain considerable proportions.

New Mgr. Named For Fingold House

Donald Campbell, recently discharged from the armed forces, has been named manager of the Hume Theatre in Burlington, a Fingold circuit showhouse. Campbell was business manager with a travelling show for a number of years before donning the King's uniform.



Mary had a little lamb,
Of which she was so fond-
But she took it to the market:
To buy another bond!
VICTORY BOND
Buy Victory Bonds!
H-M

NFB Salaries Draw Queries

During the session of parliament recently ended at Ottawa, Stanley Knowles, CCF member for Winnipeg North Centre, asked a number of questions concerning salaries and wage rates paid to employees of the National Film Board. The questions were answered by the honourable L. R. LaFleche, who was then minister of national war services. The questions and answers are reported as follows:

Q. What rate of wages does the National Film Board pay to messenger boys and picture framers?

A. Messenger boys are paid $60 per month. There are no picture framers employed.

Q. By what scale, or on what basis, are wages paid by the NFB determined?

A. Civil Service Commission rates of wages are the standard.

Q. Is any individual responsible for determining the above wages? If so, what is the position of such individual?

A. The Civil Service commission ordinarily and the government film commissioner when he acts under the authority of the National Film Act, section 12 (1).

Q. What provision is made for increases?

A. Salaries are surveyed periodically to determine whether increases are to be recommended.

Q. Is the matter of a worker's dependents considered in determining NFB wages?

A. The wage rate is paid according to the job performed.

H. Allen With New Distribs

Harry J. Allen, president and general manager of the exchange which distributes PRC product in Canada, is one of 20 independent distributors interested in the establishment of a new distributing organization, Cardinal Pictures, it was announced by John L. Franconi of Dallas, Texas, secretary of the executive committee. Allen is a charter member.

The new company has made its first deal with Action Pictures Corporation for a series of all-color outdoor action features. The first picture to be released under this agreement will be "Wildfire," to be followed by "Sunrise," and "Death Valley."

According to Mr. Franconi there are other deals pending and the company is ready to do business with producers in accordance with any of the established plans followed by the industry.

Each of the members is to make an investment in the capital stock on the basis of the distribution percentages for his exchange centre.

A new name is being sought for the company.

16 Mm. Producers Plan Hays Office

(Continued from Page 1)

of America, Inc."

The move followed unfavorable publicity received in the Los Angeles press when police reported that there had been considerable traffic in off-color photography. Producers of small-gauge subjects hope not to be associated in the public mind with that sort of thing.

Active in framing the supervisory structure is William Evans of Quality Pictures. Some of the firms whose officers have declared themselves behind the plan are Phono Films, Stensvold Productions and Scientific Films.

It has become apparnet that the 16 mm. field, developing rapidly, has become great enough to imitate in a small way the structure of the standard motion picture industry. Production and exhibition is booming, and distribution, though lagging, will soon catch up.

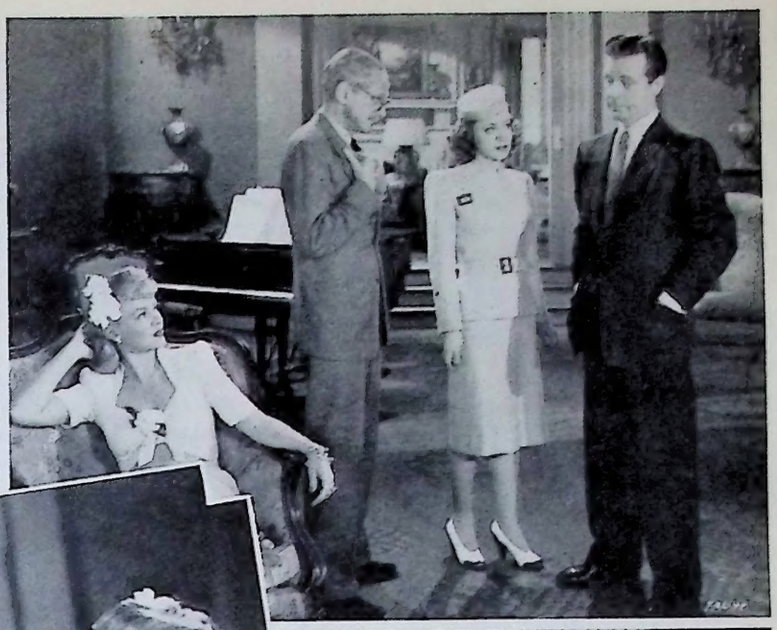
A spur to production is the belief that 16 mm. reels will be the popular size for television transmission. Now, instead of relaying on 16 mm. versions of 35 mm. films for programs, exhibitors of the smaller-size films are looking forward to sources of supply from those producing them exclusively. It is likely that in the future, through hall and television exhibition, stars will be created that are apart from those in the regular motion picture industry.

Independents, usually producers of several pictures a year, are interested in every kind of return and revenue now from 16 mm. theatre or itinerant exhibition may help them hang on until television is broad fact and provides a wide-open market.

In a recent ad in the Hollywood Reporter, International Theatrical & Television Corporation of New York, told producers that "Your 16 mm. rights are important" and asked to be consulted "for maximum revenue." The ad carried the signature of George Hirliman, president.

Hirliman has just signed a deal with George Wohl for the latter to produce a series of eight color films in 16 mm. They will centre around the character of Calamity Jane, a historic and appealing figure of Wild West days, and an unknown will get the role and a star buildup.

Major 16 Mm. Productions, another 16 mm. producer, is now shooting its second color Western, its first, "Sundown Riders," having won fine notices from leading trade journals when it was premiered several months ago.



'MURDER, MY SWEET'

THIS forceful melodrama from RKO stars Dick Powell, Claire Trevor and Anne Shirley and tells a tale of dark doings in a punchy and gripping fashion.

Dick Powell is a private detective solving the murder of a woman with a bad past. He and Claire Trevor, the villainess, provide the best acting jobs of their careers.

'Chopin' Given Mont'l Preem

(From our Quebec correspondent)

"Le Pere Chopin" ("The Old Man Chopin") has been given its world premiere at the St. Denis Theatre, in Montreal. It is a great event in the history of the Canadian theatre and film business. In fact, it is the first time that such an event has happened since Jacques Cartier, the sturdy navigator of St. Malo, landed on the Gaspe shore. Although some of the photography of "Maria Chapdelaine" was taken in the Lake St. John district, this is the first time that a French film has been totally produced in Canada

"Le Pere Chopin" was produced by Renaissance Film Company, organized in Montreal under the direction of Charles Phillips. The scenery director was Fedor Ozep and the stars are Madeleine Ozeray, a French film actress, Marcel Chabrier, Pierre Durand, Pierre Dagenais and Francois Rozet, with many other actors and radio stars of Montreal.

The plot of the picture is most simple and concerns itself with two brothers who have been separated for many years. One brother is rich and the other is poor.

The poor brother has been given the nickname "Le Pere Chopin" because of his love for the great musical genius and it is from this that the name of the picture has been derived.

The two brothers have their differences but finally the rich one sees the errors of his ways and they are happily reconciled.

The photography in this picture is proof that the sunlight in Canada is sufficient for the production of good films in the open air.

An exhibitor who is recognized as a good judge of film possibilities has stated that "Le Pere Chopin" will be a "smash hit" in Quebec as well as in the French world market.

It is reported that Charles Phillips will soon begin the production of two other films.

Paramount Claims BO Phenagling

Paramount Film Distributing Corporation is suing the proprietors of the Strand and Monroe Theatres in Key West, Florida, Mrs. Fernanda Carbonell and John Carbonell, Junior, in an effort to recover monies due Paramount, and for damages resulting from the alleged fraudulent reporting of gross receipts derived by the exhibitors named on percentage pictures exhibited at their theatres.

Lensmen Have It Hard

The odds favor the gun when it comes to a shooting match between it and a camera—there are so many more guns and the camera doesn't shoot back with anything that does physical damage. But odds don't scare cameramen. Movie audiences in all parts of the world were thrilled by the scenes of Canadian soldiers investing their courage, blood and lives in the hope for a secure future for their country and fellow-citizens. This intrepid Canadian cameraman took his chances with the rest to report the struggles of his comrades for those at home.

He is Sgt. W. G. Grant of Vancouver, B.C., one of the first Canadian cameramen to land in Europe, who scooped the news with his film report of the landing that began the last big campaign of the war in Europe. In a later action he was wounded and is here shown receiving treatment from an RAF first aid man.

Sgt. Grant is a member of our industry who carried his work into battle. His colleagues at home will support the Eighth Victory Loan as recognition and assistance to him and other warriors.

60th Anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Hirsch

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Hirsch, the parents of two sons who are active members of the theatre industry, recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in Montreal.

Their sons are J. Arthur Hirsch, president of Consolidated Theatres and Percy Hirsch of the same company. Marc Hirsch manager of the Eglinton Theatre, Toronto, is a brother of Michael Hirsch.

Born in Richmond, Quebec, Michael Hirsch moved to Montreal in 1875, where he has lived ever since, and he was in the cigar business until 1923 when he retired.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Hirsch have been active in promoting art and cultural activities in Montreal and Mr. Hirsch devotes a considerable amount of his time to public, philanthropic and community work.

National Theatre For Canada Urged

The Dominion should have "plays and players to send to other countries to give them a picture of a maturing Canada," said playwright-author John Coulter, before the Women's Art Association, in stressing the need for a Canadian national, state-subsidized theatre.

Canadian playwrights and actors should go on from the collective beginning made in the artists' brief presented to the Dominion government in June, 1944, Coulter further advised. They should claim state support for "a Canadian stage on which to see contemporary Canadian life."

A similar request to the Quebec government, by Pierre Dagenais of Montreal, director of L'Equipe, a provincial theatre, asked that theatres be subsidized to help French-Canadian dramatic talent.

P. J. Hanifen, NS, Still Has Zing

You could hardly call P. J. Hanifen of Halifax, N.S., a veteran theatre manager although he is on the very threshold of 80. He didn't become a theatre manager until he was 68. But, he had diversified experience in and about theatres from his teens.

From membership in a Little Theatre group in his native Halifax, he graduated to the professional stage. For many years, he trouped through Canada and the USA with single production and dramatic repertory outfits, and was also with a number of resident stock units on both side of the line.

He gave up the stage to concentrate on a tailoring and haberdashery store in Halifax. Thence to the chairmanship of the Nova Scotia Board of Censors. It was while he headed this board that the shift was made from silent to sound films. It was claimed that the first movieola used in Canada to delete words from a motion picture was purchased by Hanifen.

When a political switchover developed in Nova Scotia, Hanifen went with Famous Players' Canadian Corporation as a theatre manager. He was assigned to the Garrick, seating 725, and formerly a stage show house for years, originally under the name of the Strand. Hanifen has been piloting this house for a dozen years. He is active, physically and mentally, and recently, when police found an intruder in the Garrick at 3 a.m., P. J. hustled out of bed and to the theatre a lot more promptly than many youngsters. Some of the screen players shown on the Garrick screen have trouped with this veteran, and he is particularly interested in Sidney Toler, Donald Meek and Clive Brook.

Confederation Had Profitable Year

Net profit of Confederation Amusements Limited, Montreal, for the twelve months ended December 31, 1944, amounted to $106,510.86 after payment of all operating expenses, including amusement and general taxes, bond interest, discount and depreciation. This was revealed in the company's seventeenth annual report.

An estimated provision of $46,-74.63 for income and excess profits taxes, including a refundable portion of $1,538.91, reduced the net profit for the year to $59,-736.23.

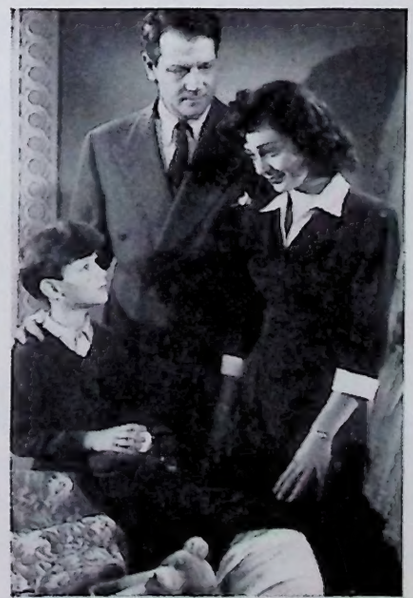
Confederation Amusements operates a circuit of eight theatres in Quebec.

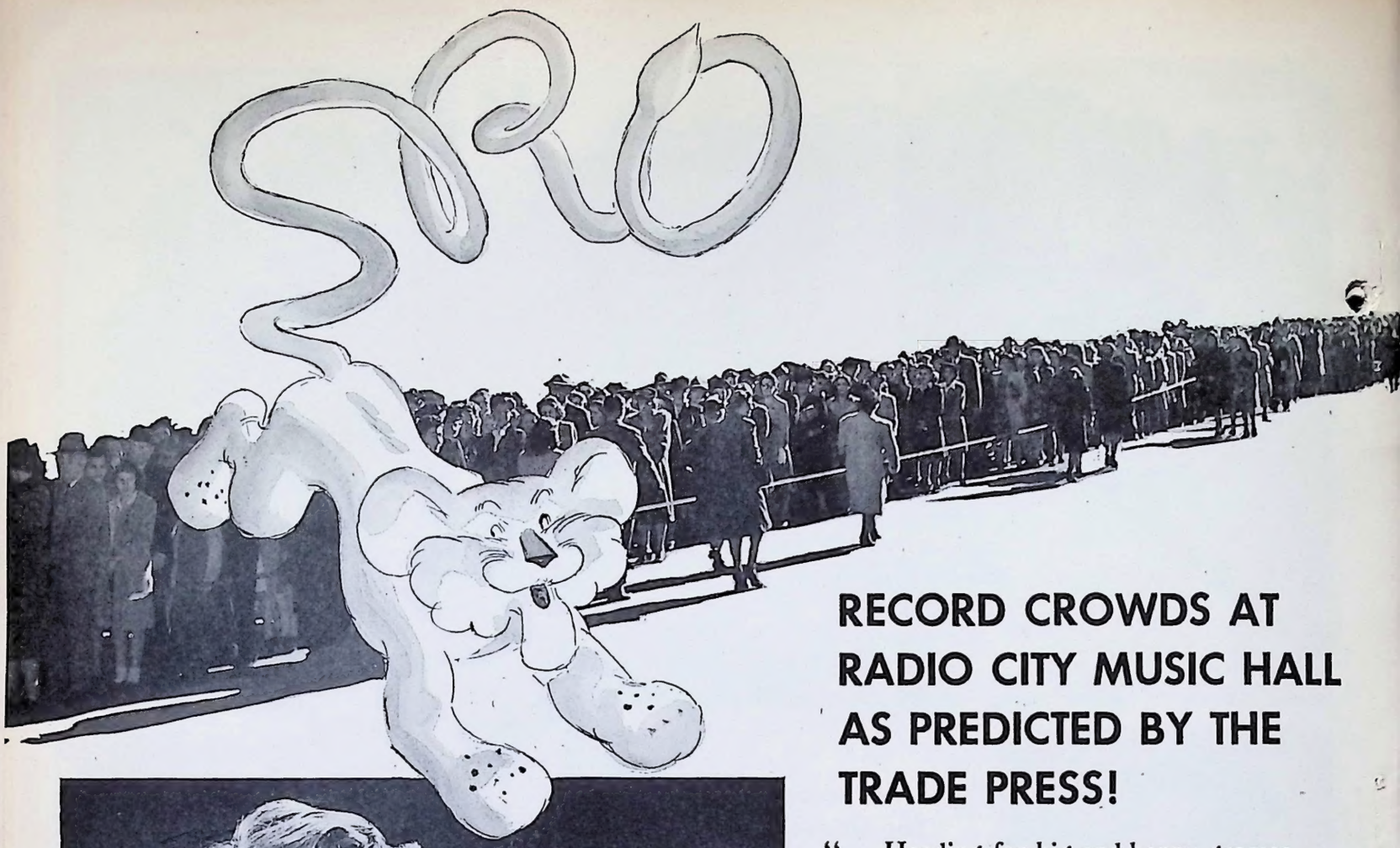
Paramount's 'The Unseen' Ace Shudder Show

CHILLY mystery which is maintained right through gives Paramount's "The Unseen" its greatest appeal and the presence of name players and excellent production provides strong boxoffice power.

Jane Russell, Joel McCrae, Herbert Marshall, Elizabeth Risdon and others give the acting top marks.

The terrifying doings take place in a strange house on a dark street.





RECORD CROWDS AT RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL AS PREDICTED BY THE TRADE PRESS!

"... Heading for big and happy grosses ... production in Metro's very best style ..."
—MOTION PICTURE DAILY

"...Supremely entertaining...huge success ...everything favorable for top grosses..."
—FILM DAILY

"... Exhibitors will cheer, from the deluxer to the late run neighborhood house ..."
—BOXOFFICE

"... Headed for the higher brackets ..."
—EXHIBITOR

"... Long lines and extra ticket-punching activity at the box-office ..."
—SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW

"... The romantic team of 'Woman of the Year' has turned to comedy again which will be the best of news for exhibitors and their customers ... sure-fire ..."
—MOTION PICTURE HERALD

"... Topflight production ... a box-office click ..." —VARIETY

"... Headed for a box-office field day ..."
—HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

SPENCER TRACY
walks in his sleep!
KATHARINE HEPBURN
is the bashful bride!
"Without Love"
IS THEIR BIGGEST M-G-M HIT!